

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Divisional Application of:)	
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/617,539	:	Examiner: Unassigned
filed July 14, 2000)	
(Confirmation No.: 5655)	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Noriyoshi UEDA, et al.	:	
)	
Application No.: Unassigned	:	
)	
Filed: Concurrently herewith	:	
)	
For: SHEET PUNCHING DEVICE AND	:	September 8, 2003
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)	
HAVING THE SAME	:	

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CLAIM TO PRIORITY

Sir:

Applicants hereby claim priority in the above-identified divisional application under the International Convention and all rights to which he is entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon the following Japanese Priority Application:

JAPAN

11-201746

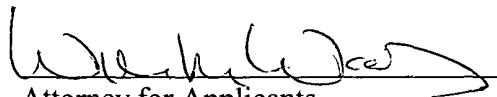
July 15, 1999

A Claim to Priority, along with a certified copy of the priority document, was filed on October 31, 2000 in parent Application No. 09/617,539 of this divisional application. Accordingly, a copy of the priority document is not being submitted herewith.

Applicants respectfully request an acknowledgment in the first Official Action of this divisional application that the certified copy of the priority document was received in parent Application No. 09/617,539, and an indication that a submission of a certified copy is not required in this divisional application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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